

RULES AND ORDER OF CONDUCTING THE BUSINESS IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

TOUCHING THE DUTY OF THE SPEAKER.

1. He shall take the Chair every day precisely at the hour to which the House, on the preceding day, adjourned; shall immediately call the members to order; and, on the appearance of a quorum, cause the Journal of the preceding day to be read.

2. He shall preserve decorum and order; may speak to points of order in preference to other members; rising from his seat for that purpose; and shall decide questions of order, subject to an appeal to the House by any member; on which appeal, no member shall speak more than once, unless by leave of the House.

3. He shall rise to put a question, but may state it sitting.

4. Questions shall be distinctly put in this form, namely: "As many as are of the opinion that (as the question may be,) say Aye:" and, after the affirmative voice has been expressed, "As many as are of the contrary opinion say No." If the Speaker still doubt, or a count be required, the Speaker shall name two members, one from each side of the House, to tell the members in the affirmative; which, being reported, he shall then name two others, one from each side of the question, to tell those in the negative; which, being also reported, he shall rise and state the decision to the House.

5. The Speaker shall examine and correct the Journal before it is read. He shall have a general direction of the Hall. He shall have a right to name any member to perform the duties of the Chair; but such substitution shall not extend beyond an adjournment, except in case of sickness.

6. All Committees shall be appointed by the Speaker, unless otherwise specially ordered by the House.

7. In all elections the Speaker shall vote. In other cases he shall not vote, unless the House be equally divided, or unless his vote, if given in the minority, will make the division